

# Your Lie in April



7

NAOSHI ARAKAWA



# Your Lie in April

*I met the girl  
under full-bloomed cherry blossoms,  
and my fate has begun to change.*

7

*Naoshi Arakawa*

When his mother died in the autumn of his 12th year, piano prodigy Kōsei Arima lost his ability to play. Without a purpose, his days lost all color and continued on in a drab monotone. But the spring he was 14, he met the exceptionally quirky violinist Kaori Miyazono.

As he accompanied Kaori and even played solo in a piano competition, Kōsei's days gradually filled with color. Then, Kaori was invited to play at the Tōwa Hall gala concert. Watari and the others rejoiced at the prospect of seeing Kōsei & Kaori, the invincible duo that had been showered in the audience's applause, back in action. But the day of the concert, Kaori was nowhere to be seen!!



Kōsei tried to buy some time by switching the performance order. However, when Miike, the competition's winner, belittled Kaori's playing, Kōsei resolved to take the stage alone. A murmur ran through the audience when the accompanist began to play solo. Kōsei had given in to his rage, and the music he played was anything but pleasant.

Concentrating on his performance, Kōsei is plunged into a world devoid of music, where he realized how violently he had been playing. "This piece was my mother's favorite. Did she play it like this?" The boy's performance made a drastic change, and the listeners were enveloped in sparkling sounds. Through memories of his mother and the things she used to say, the boy's performance built up to its climax...



## ✿ STORY & CHARACTERS ✿

### ✿ Kaori Miyazono

A violinist who is overwhelmingly unique. She was invited to play in the Tōwa Hall gala concert at the recommendation of the sponsor, but never appeared for her performance.



### ✿ Kōsei Arima

An ex-piano prodigy who lost his ability to play when his mother died. He and Kaori were supposed to be making a comeback together at the gala concert, but he ends up playing alone.



### ✿ Tsubaki Sawabe

A longtime friend of Kōsei's. An athletic good enough to be the school softball team's power hitter. Seems to have trouble in all academic endeavors.



### ✿ Hiroko Seto

Japan's leading pianist. She agrees to be Kōsei's piano instructor. She went to music school with Kōsei's mother, Saki Arima.



## *contents*

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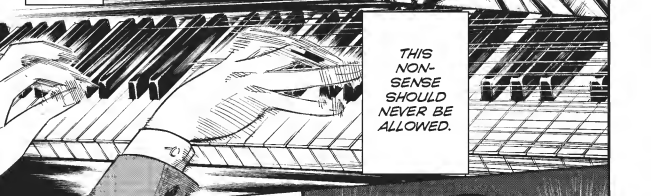




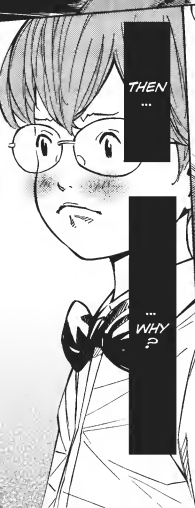
THIS  
IS A  
SPREE  
OF  
ABSUR-  
DITY.

HE  
CHANGES  
HIS  
PLAYING  
STYLE  
MID-  
PIECE.

HIS  
DYNAM-  
ICS  
ARE  
ALL  
OVER  
THE  
PLACE.



THIS  
NON-  
SENSE  
SHOULD  
NEVER BE  
ALLOWED.



THEN  
...

...  
WHY?



THAT'S  
WHAT MY  
TEACHER  
SAYS.

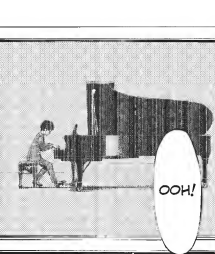
...EXISTS  
TO GIVE  
FORM  
TO THE  
COM-  
POSER'S  
INTENT.



A  
MUSI-  
CIAN...

THIS  
IS JUST  
AUDIENCE-  
PLEASING  
GRAND-  
STANDING.

IN THIS  
WORLD, PRE-  
CISION AND  
FAITHFULNESS  
REIGN SU-  
PREME.



OOH!

HOW...



KŌSEI-  
NII-  
CHAN!

HE'S  
SO  
COOL  
WHEN  
HE'S  
PLAY-  
ING THE  
PIANO.

...IS  
HE  
MAK-  
ING  
ME  
SO  
NER-  
VOUS  
?



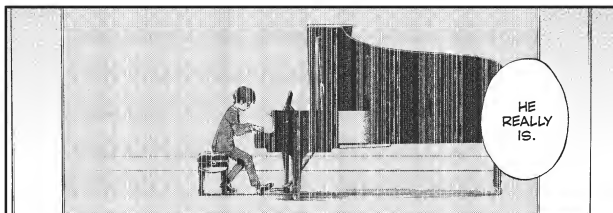
HE IS,  
ISN'T  
HE?

...CAN'T  
I  
TAKE  
MY  
EYES  
OFF  
HIM  
?

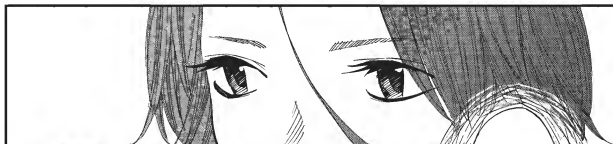


WHY...

Chapter 25: Connection



HE  
REALLY  
IS.



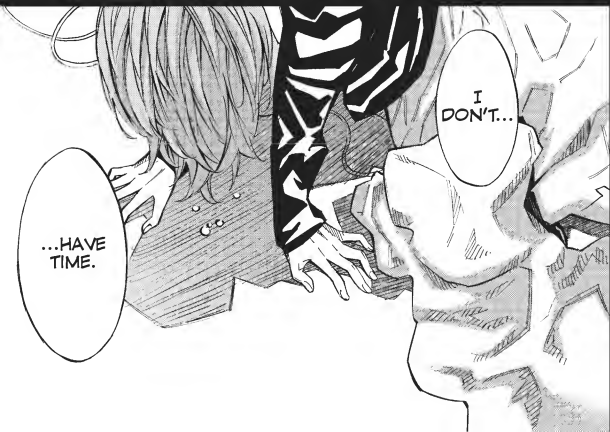
AND  
YOU CALL  
YOURSELF  
HIS  
MOTHER  
?!

HE  
WAS  
BLEED-  
ING!!

THAT'S  
GOING  
TOO FAR,  
SAKI.

HE  
WANTED  
TO MAKE  
YOU  
HAPPY!!

KŌSEI  
WORKED  
REALLY  
HARD ON  
THAT  
PIECE!

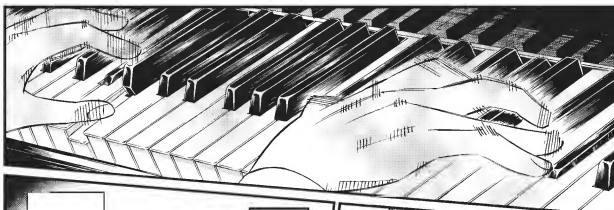


I HOPE  
YOU'RE  
WATCHING.

SAKI.

...IS GOING  
TO SAY HIS  
LAST  
FAREWELL.

OUR  
BOY...



...ALWAYS  
PUT  
EVERY-  
THING  
OUT  
THERE  
LIKE  
THIS?

DID  
KŌSEI  
ARI-  
MA...

IT'S  
LIKE  
HE'S  
NAKED.



IT'S  
LIKE  
EVERY-  
THING  
ABOUT  
ME IS  
TURNING  
INTO  
MUSIC,

AND  
RIDING  
OFF  
ON THE  
CURRENT.



IS THIS  
WHAT  
I'M  
VISUAL-  
IZING?



FRAG-  
MENTS  
OF  
THE  
PAST.

WHAT  
I SEE  
WHEN  
I'M  
WITH  
SOME-  
ONE.



PLAY  
WITH  
ALL...

...THAT  
YOU  
ARE.



WHO ARE  
YOU PLAYING  
THE PIANO  
FOR?



THIS  
PIECE  
WILL  
ALWAYS  
REMINDE  
ME  
OF MY  
MOTHER.

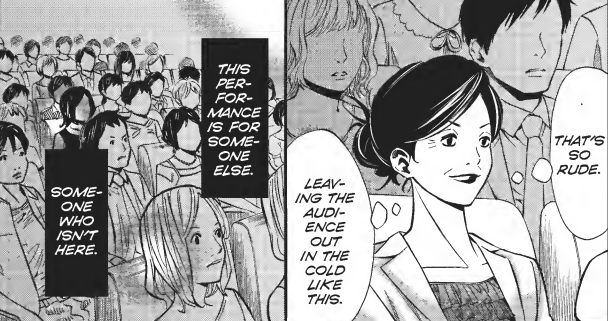
OH.

THERE  
SHE  
IS.



I  
HOPE  
IT  
DOES.

WILL IT  
REACH  
HER?



SOME-  
ONE  
WHO  
ISN'T  
HERE.

THIS  
PER-  
FOR-  
MANCE  
IS FOR  
SOME-  
ONE  
ELSE.

LEAV-  
ING THE  
AUDI-  
ENCE  
OUT  
IN THE  
COLD  
LIKE  
THIS.

THAT'S  
SO  
RUDE.



...AND  
PRIVATE  
PER-  
FOR-  
MANCE.

IT'S A  
TER-  
RIBLY  
SELF-  
ISH...

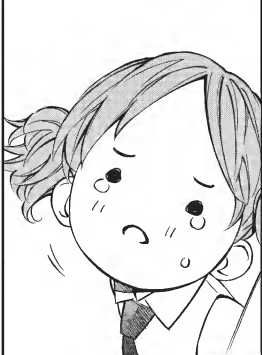


...THINK  
OF  
THOSE  
WHO  
ARE  
DEAR  
TO US.

...IT  
MAKES  
US...

BUT...





START  
WALK-  
ING ON  
YOUR  
OWN  
TWO  
FEET.

DON'T  
LET  
THEM  
CALL  
YOU A  
PUPPET.



GET  
YOUR-  
SELF  
OUT OF  
THAT  
ROOM.

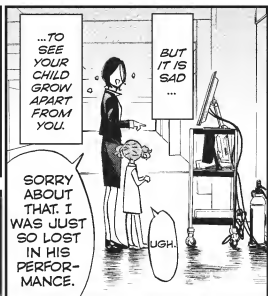


THAT'S  
IT,  
KŌSEI.

KEEP  
MOVING  
FORWARD.



BUT WE CAN COMFORT OURSELVES.



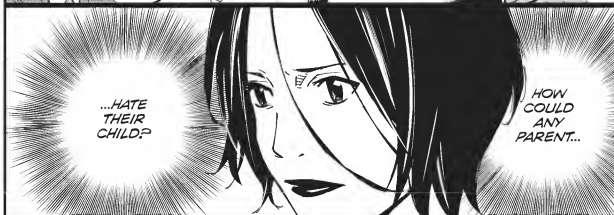


IS IT  
REALLY  
OKAY  
FOR  
ME TO  
PLAY THE  
PIANO?



...IF  
MOM  
HATES  
ME.

I  
WON-  
DER...



...HATE  
THEIR  
CHILD?

HOW  
COULD  
ANY  
PARENT...

...WITH  
ALL OF  
HER  
HEART.

SHE  
LOVED  
YOU...



WHAT I'M  
WORRIED  
ABOUT...

I DON'T  
CARE WHAT  
HAPPENS  
TO ME.



...WHEN  
I'M  
GONE.

...IS  
WHAT WILL  
HAPPEN TO  
KŌSEI...

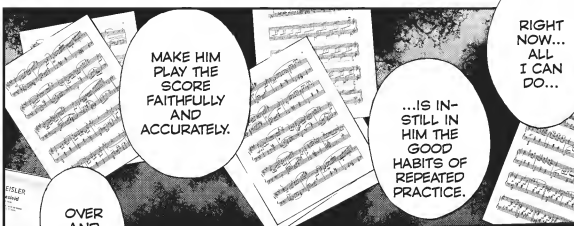


WILL HE BE  
ABLE TO GO  
ON LIVING  
WITHOUT HIS  
MOTHER?

WILL HE  
BE ABLE  
TO MAKE  
A LIFE FOR  
HIMSELF?



CAN HE  
SUPPORT  
HIMSELF  
WITH  
MUSIC?

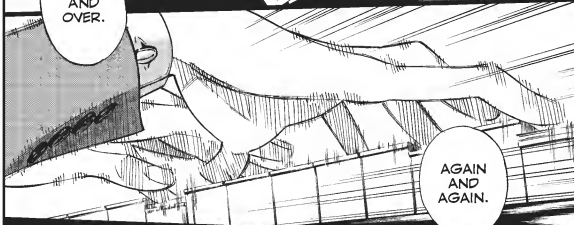


MAKE HIM  
PLAY THE  
SCORE  
FAITHFULLY  
AND  
ACCURATELY.

RIGHT  
NOW...  
ALL  
I CAN  
DO...

...IS IN-  
STILL IN  
HIM THE  
GOOD  
HABITS OF  
REPEATED  
PRACTICE.

OVER  
AND  
OVER.



AGAIN  
AND  
AGAIN.



IF  
HE CAN  
JUST  
MASTER  
THE  
TECH-  
NIQUE,

HE  
MIGHT  
BE ABLE  
TO MAKE  
A LIVING  
FOR HIM-  
SELF.



THAT  
WAS A  
REALLY  
TRICKY  
PART.

WHOA.



AND HE  
PLAYED  
IT LIKE  
IT WAS  
NOTHING!

TCH.



THE  
ANXI-  
ETY OF  
LEAV-  
ING A  
CHILD  
BE-  
HIND.

THE  
RE-  
GRET.

NOW  
I  
KNOW  
HOW  
SHE  
FELT.

...SO  
HARD  
FOR  
KŌSEI,  
ISN'T  
IT?

THAT'S  
WHY  
SHE  
MADE  
EVERY-  
THING...

SAKI.

YOU WERE  
DESPERATE,  
WEREN'T  
YOU?



I  
CAN'T...

...FOR  
MY  
CHILD.

...LEAVE  
ANY-  
THING...



I'M A  
TERRIBLE  
MOTHER.



WILL MY TREASURE...

HE ONLY EATS WHAT HE LIKES...IS HE GETTING ALL HIS VEGETABLES?

HE'S SO SHY. WILL HE MAKE FRIENDS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?

HE'S NOT A GOOD ATHLETE. HE'S NOT GOING TO GET HIMSELF BADLY HURT, IS HE?

WILL HE BE ABLE TO BRUSH HIS TEETH EVERY MORNING?

HE'LL SLEEP ANYWHERE. I HOPE HE DOESN'T CATCH A COLD.

...FIND HAPPINESS?

I WISH ...

...I COULD BE THERE FOR HIM.





...WAS A  
SHADOW  
THAT I  
MADE  
MYSELF.

THE  
GHOST  
OF MY  
MOTH-  
ER...

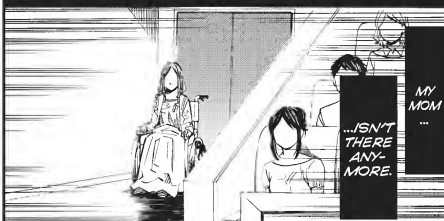


MY  
WEAK-  
NESS.



AN  
EXCUSE  
TO RUN  
AWAY.

I  
ALWAYS  
KNEW.



...ISN'T  
THERE  
ANY-  
MORE.

MY  
MOM  
...



BUT IT'S  
STRANGE.

THERE,  
YOU  
PLAYED A  
CHORD.

HOLD  
DOWN  
LA WITH  
YOUR  
OTHER  
PINKY.

WHEN  
DID YOU  
GET  
TO BE  
SO  
HEAVY?

IS IT  
BE-  
CAUSE  
IT'S  
THIS  
PIECE?

SHE  
FEELS  
SO  
CLOSE.

LIKE  
YOU'RE  
STROKING  
A BABY'S  
HEAD.

ONE  
MORE  
TIME.

GO  
ON.



I  
REMEM-  
BER NOW.

WHEN  
YOU  
PLAY  
THE  
PIANO...



MY  
MOTHER...

...IS  
INSIDE  
ME.





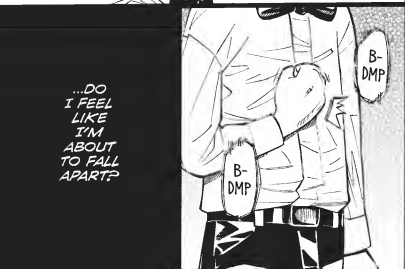
HOW  
HAVE  
YOU  
BEEN  
TEACH-  
ING  
HIM?

HIRO-  
KŌ.



SO  
WHY...

MY  
HEART  
IS  
LEAVING.



...DO  
I FEEL  
LIKE  
I'M  
ABOUT  
TO FALL  
APART?

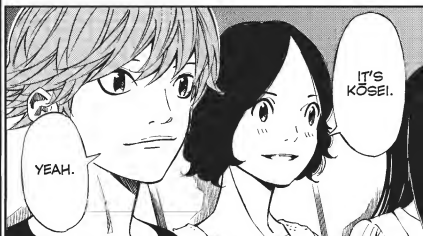
B-  
DMP

B-  
DMP

IT'S  
SUPPOSED  
TO BE...



LIKE AN  
EMBRACE.



YEAH.

IT'S  
KŌSEI.

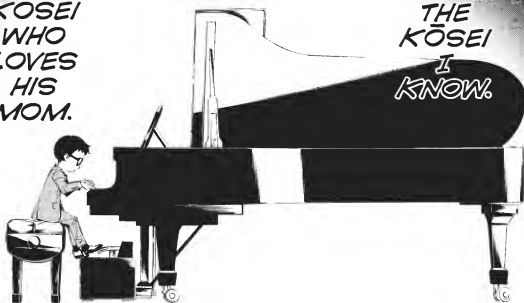


MY  
BEST PER-  
FORMANCE  
EVER.

I'M  
GOING  
TO GIVE  
HER

THE  
KŌSEI  
WHO  
LOVES  
HIS  
MOM.

THAT'S  
THE  
KŌSEI  
I  
KNOW.





NOW  
I  
CAN...

...CHASE  
AFTER  
HIM  
AGAIN.



THE  
INNOCENT  
KŌSEI  
ARIMA I  
ADMIRE  
SO MUCH  
IS GONE.

THAT  
BOY—



I'M  
GLAD  
I  
CAME.

BRR...



YIKES!

EH EH EH EH

GUM  
HUM  
HUM

HOO  
HEH  
HEH

HEH  
HEH  
HEH



NO.



OH.



I  
WANT  
TO  
BASK  
IN IT  
LONGER.



DON'T  
STOP.



LET  
ME  
HEAR  
MORE.

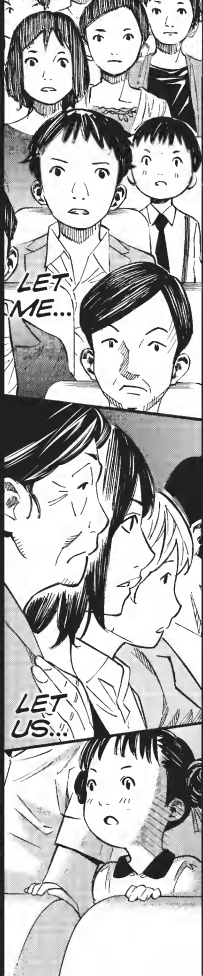


I  
WANT  
TO  
STAY  
HERE  
FOR-  
EVER.



THE  
SOUNDS  
CONNECT  
US IN  
INTER-  
MITTENT  
LINKS.

WE  
SHARE  
THEM.

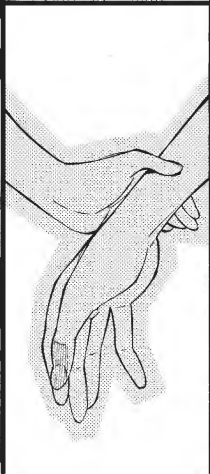


LET  
ME...

LET  
US...!



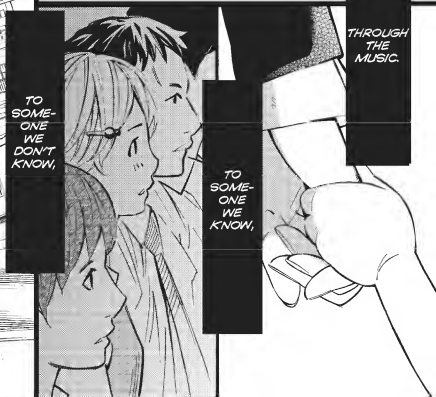
LET'S  
GO.



TO  
ANY-  
ONE  
IN THE  
WORLD.



THEY  
CON-  
NECT  
US TO  
SOME-  
ONE,

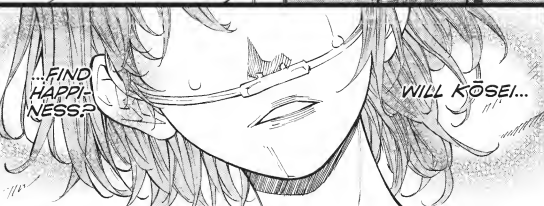


TO  
SOME-  
ONE  
WE  
DON'T  
KNOW,

TO  
SOME-  
ONE  
WE  
KNOW,

THROUGH  
THE  
MUSIC.





...FIND  
HAPPI-  
NESS?

WILL KŌSEI...



LISTEN  
TO THIS.  
ISN'T IT  
OBVIOUS  
?

DON'T  
BE  
SILLY.



DO.

MI.

LA.

SOL.

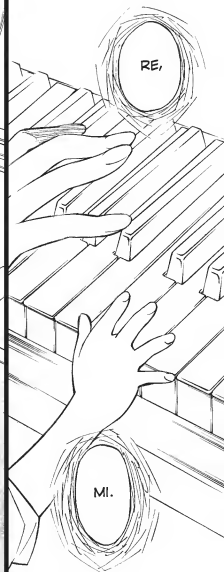
RE..

DO.

LA.



THIS  
IS  
DO,



RE,

MI.

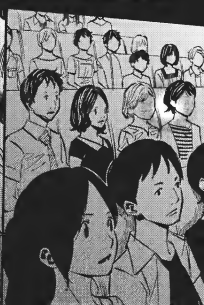


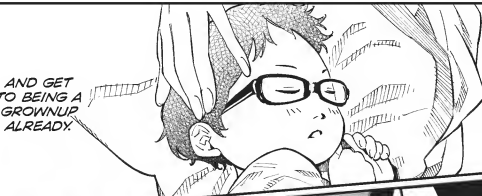
THE  
GIRLS ARE  
GONNA BE  
ALL OVER  
HIM.



ONE DAY,  
WHEN YOU  
GROW  
UP AND  
LEAVE THE  
NEST,

WILL YOU  
FORGET  
ME?





AND GET  
TO BEING A  
GROWNUP  
ALREADY.

THAT'S  
SILLY.  
STOP  
WORRY-  
ING  
ABOUT  
IT.



HUFF.

HUFF.

YOU  
CAN'T  
GO BACK  
TO THE  
CRADLE  
ANY-  
MORE.

HUFF.

YOU  
NEED  
...

...TO GO  
OUTSIDE,  
TO FLY TO  
A BIGGER  
WORLD.





SO...

I  
BE-  
LIEVE  
THAT,

AND  
THAT  
MOVES  
ME  
FOR-  
WARD.

SO...

JUST  
LIKE  
I'M  
CON-  
NECTED  
TO  
ANYONE  
ELSE,

I'M  
CON-  
NECTED  
TO MY  
MOTHER.

KŌSEI.

KŌSEI.

I  
WONT...

OH,  
NO.

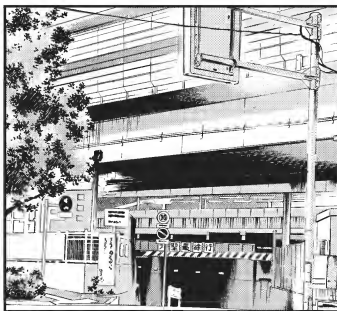
IT'S  
ALMOST  
OVER.

WE  
ARE  
CON-  
NECTED.

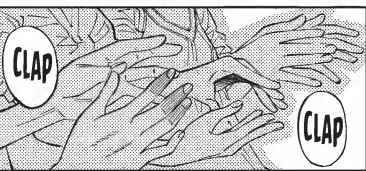
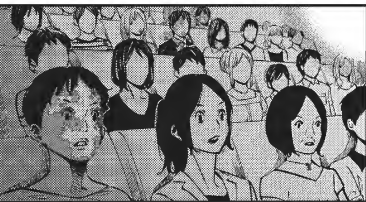
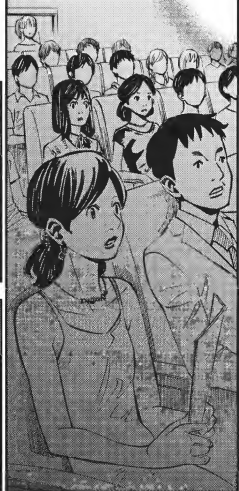
...SEE  
MOM'S  
SHAD-  
OW  
ANY-  
MORE.

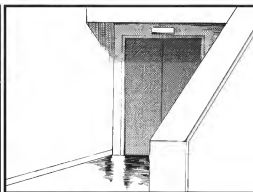
**GOOD-  
BYE.**

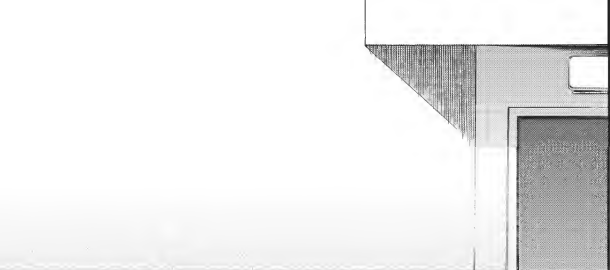












**GOOD-  
BYE.**



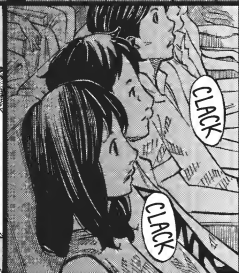
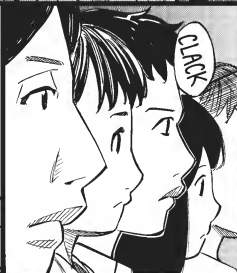


# Your Lie in April

*I met the girl under full-bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change.*

CHAPTER 26: A CHAIN



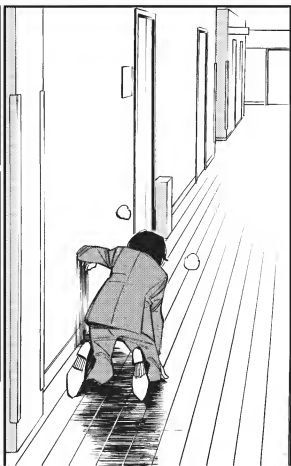


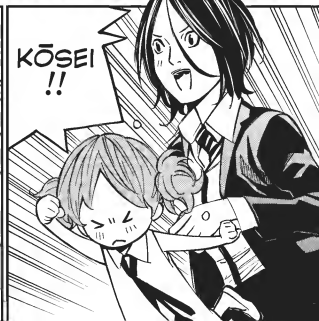




Ka-  
Chak











DID YOU  
GET TO  
SEE  
SAKI?



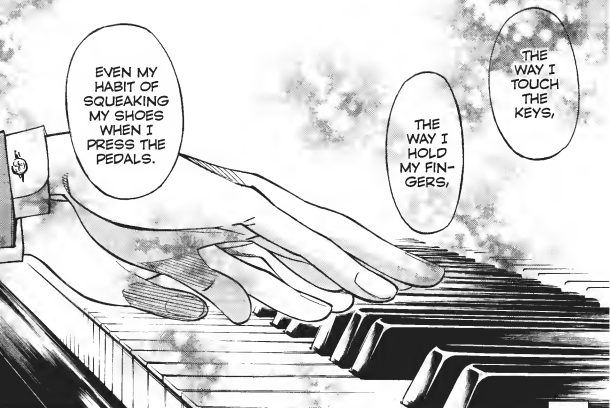
MOM...

...HAS  
ALWAYS  
BEEN  
NEAR  
ME.



YEAH.





EVEN MY  
HABIT OF  
SQUEAKING  
MY SHOES  
WHEN I  
PRESS THE  
PEDALS.

THE  
WAY I  
HOLD  
MY FIN-  
GERS,

THE  
WAY I  
TOUCH  
THE  
KEYS,

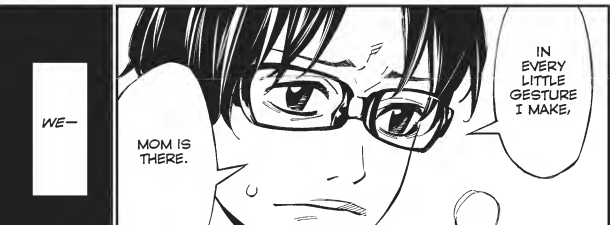


THE  
WAY I  
USE MY  
TOOTH-  
BRUSH.



MY  
TASTE  
IN  
FOOD.

THE  
ORDER  
I EAT  
THINGS  
IN.



IN  
EVERY  
LITTLE  
GESTURE  
I MAKE,

MOM IS  
THERE.

WE—

ARE  
CON-  
NECT-  
ED.??

MOM  
AND  
I...









DID IT  
REACH  
HER?

I  
PLAYED  
WITH  
EVERY-  
THING  
I  
HAD...



DON'T  
BE  
SILLY.

YOU  
TWO ARE  
CONNECTED,  
REMEMBER?



OF  
COURSE  
YOU  
REACHED  
HER.



PEOPLE  
I MET.

IM-  
PRES-  
SIONS  
I FELT.

BE-  
CAUSE  
I  
HAD  
MUSIC  
IN MY  
LIFE,

THERE  
WERE  
UNIQUE  
MOMENTS  
I EXPERI-  
ENCED.





I  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE ANY  
OF IT...

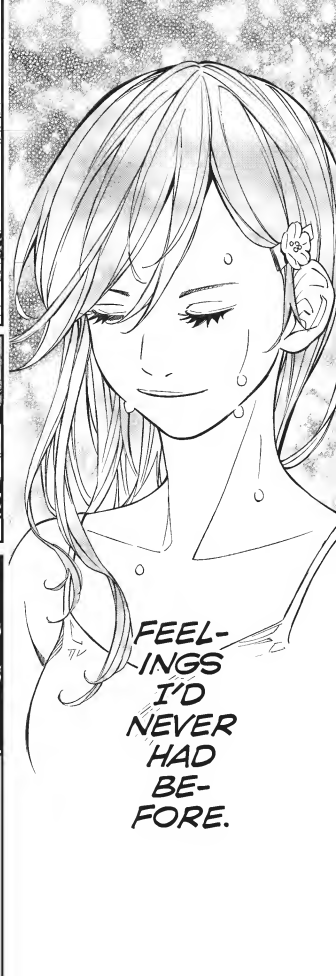
...IF YOU  
HADN'T  
TAUGHT  
ME THE  
PIANO.



THESE ARE  
ALL THE  
MEMORIES  
YOU LEFT  
ME.



MOM.



FEEL-  
INGS  
I'D  
NEVER  
HAD  
BE-  
FORE.

GOOD-  
BYE.



THANK  
YOU.

THANK  
YOU.



I'M  
HAPPY.

AFF

SAKI.

THIS IS  
WHAT  
YOU  
WANTED,  
ISN'T  
IT?



HUSH

KEEP  
GOING,  
KEEP  
GOING.

OH,  
NO.

BUT  
LET'S  
GET  
BACK  
ON  
TRACK.

WELL,  
THAT  
WAS A  
SUR-  
PRISE,

UHHH.





WE NOW  
COME TO  
OUR FIRST-  
PLACE  
WINNER IN  
THE MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
DIVISION.

TOSHIYA  
MIIKE-  
KUN.



WAAAAAAH!

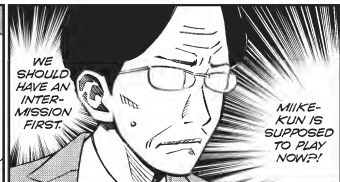
WHAT  
DO I  
DO?!

IT'S  
LIKE  
A  
FUNER-  
AL IN  
HERE!!

THE  
HOUSE  
IS COM-  
PLETELY  
SILENT!!



THIS IS  
GOING  
TO BE  
TOUGH.



WE  
SHOULD  
HAVE AN  
INTER-  
MISSION  
FIRST.

MIIKE-  
KUN IS  
SUPPOSED  
TO PLAY  
NOW?!



THEY'RE  
NOT  
READY  
TO HEAR  
ANOTHER  
PERFORM-  
ANCE.

THEY'RE  
SAVOR-  
ING THE  
LINGERING  
NOTES.



...IS STILL  
AFFECTED  
BY ARIMA'S  
PERFORM-  
ANCE.

THE  
AUDIENCE...

Ka-  
Chak

THERE'S  
NO WAY  
I WOULD  
WANT  
TO PLAY  
NOW.

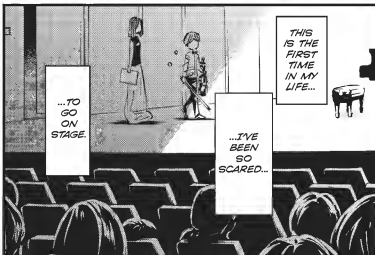
SHIVER

FOR A  
MUSI-  
CIAN,  
THIS IS  
HELL!!



THIS  
CONCERT  
MIGHT AS  
WELL BE  
OVER. I  
COULD GO  
HOME NOW.

THE  
NEXT  
PERFOR-  
MANCE ?



...TO  
GO  
ON  
STAGE.

...I'VE  
BEEN  
SO  
SCARED...

THIS  
IS THE  
FIRST  
TIME  
IN MY  
LIFE...



IF I  
DON'T  
HOLD  
MYSELF  
TOGETH-  
ER,

I  
MIGHT  
JUST  
COLLAPSE.



THE  
SAME  
STAGE.



THAT  
WAS SO  
BEAUTI-  
FUL.

CLAP

I DON'T  
WANT  
ANY  
MUSIC  
NOW.

CLAP

I  
WANNA  
GO  
HOME.

CLAP



I  
WANT  
TO  
RUN  
AWAY.



THEY'RE  
GOING  
TO  
COM-  
PARE  
US.





THAT'S  
HARD...



MIIKE-  
KUN.



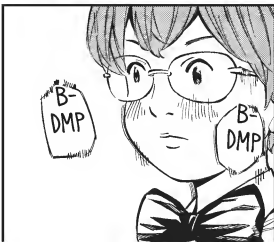
HAVE  
I EVER  
CON-  
FRONT-  
ED IT...

...SO  
EAR-  
NEST-  
LY?



...PUT  
THAT  
MUCH  
INTO  
IT?

HAVE  
I  
EVER...



B-  
DMP

B-  
DMP

I  
WANT  
TO  
TRY...

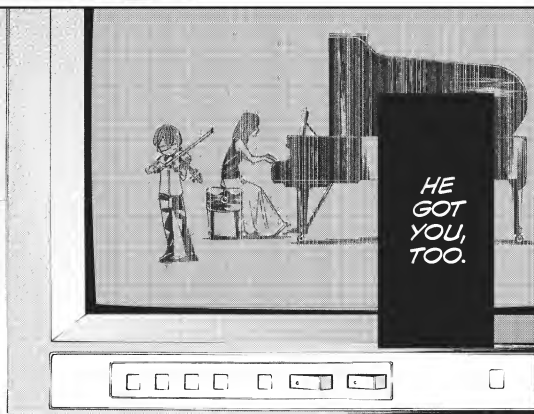
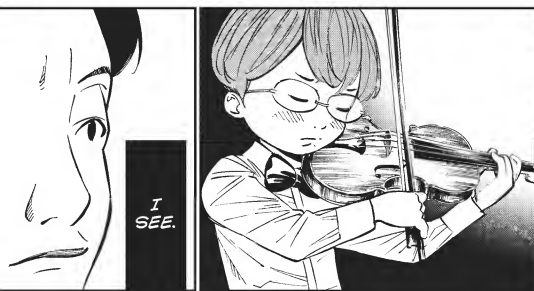
...PUT-  
TING THAT  
MUCH OF  
MY HEART  
AND SOUL  
INTO IT!

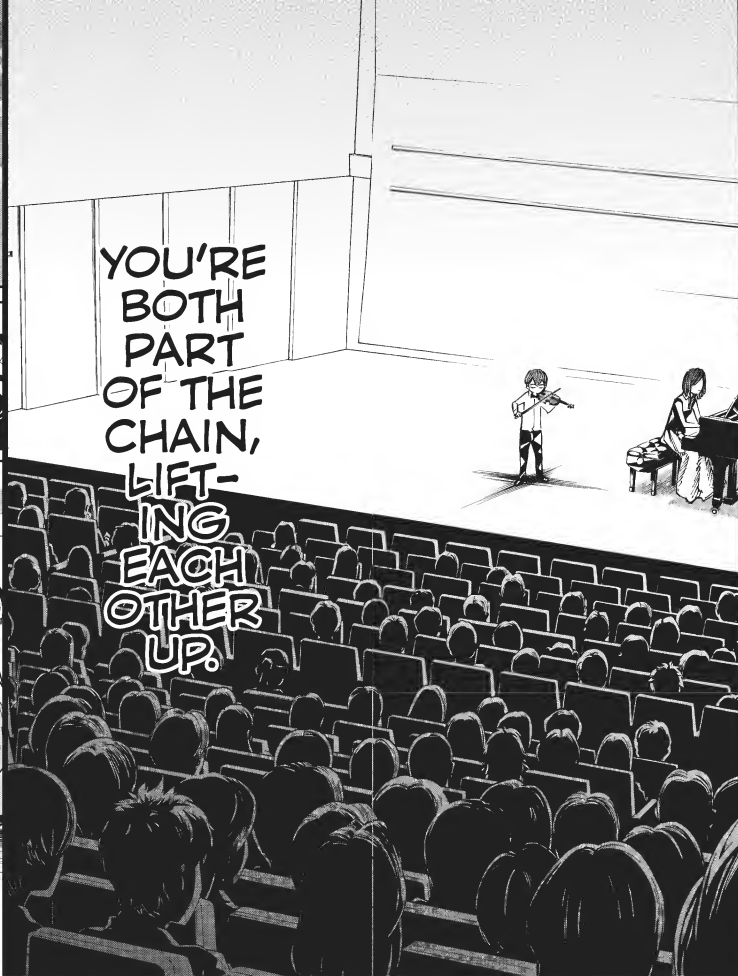
THE  
WORD  
"ON-  
WARD"  
ECHOES  
IN MY  
MIND.

I  
WANT  
TO  
TRY...

...PUT-  
TING THAT  
MUCH OF  
MY HEART  
AND SOUL  
INTO IT!

WATCH ME.















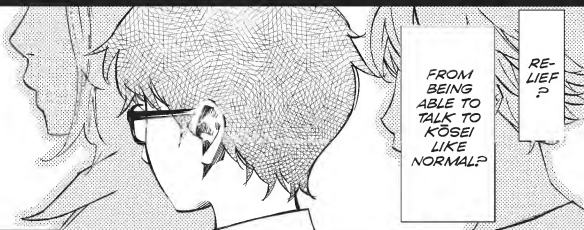




*HUH...? THAT'S WEIRD.*



*BUT WHY AM I CRYING?*

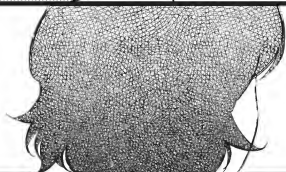


FROM  
BEING  
ABLE TO  
TALK TO  
KŌSEI  
LIKE  
NORMAL?

RE-  
LIEF  
?

FROM  
BEING  
ABLE  
TO TALK  
TO  
KŌSEI...

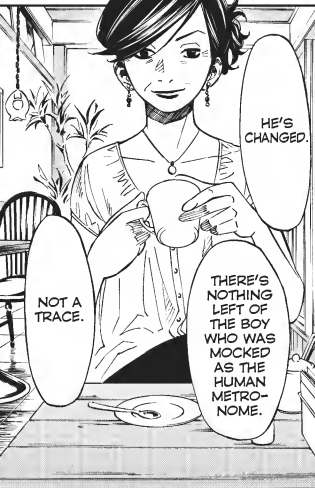
OR  
DISAP-  
POINT-  
MENT  
?



...LIKE  
NOR-  
MAL.

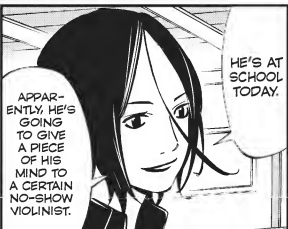


HOW  
IS  
ARIMA-  
KUN?



NOT A  
TRACE.

THERE'S  
NOTHING  
LEFT OF  
THE BOY  
WHO WAS  
MOCKED  
AS THE  
HUMAN  
METRO-  
NOME.



OH,  
MY,  
MY.  
HOW  
DREAD-  
FUL.



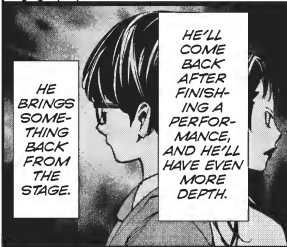
IT  
LEAVES  
AN  
IMPRES-  
SION  
ON ITS  
LISTEN-  
ERS.



THERE'S  
SOME-  
THING  
ALIVE IN  
HIS  
MUSIC.



HE'S  
BECOME  
AN INTER-  
ESTING  
MUSICIAN.



HE  
BRINGS  
SOME-  
THING  
BACK  
FROM  
THE  
STAGE.

HE'LL  
COME  
BACK  
AFTER  
FINISH-  
ING A  
PERFOR-  
MANCE,  
AND HE'LL  
HAVE EVEN  
MORE  
DEPTH.

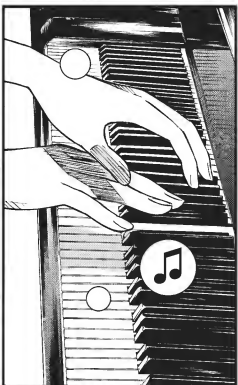


HIS  
FACE  
CHANGES,  
YOU  
KNOW?

IT  
MAKES  
MY HEART  
SKIP A  
BEAT.

AND  
USES  
THEM  
TO  
GROW.

HE  
FEEDS  
OFF OF  
THOSE  
MIS-  
HAPS,



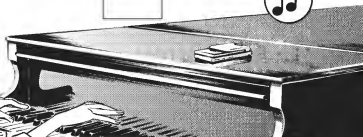


SHOULD  
I JUST  
GO TO  
HER  
HOUSE  
?

WOULD  
THAT  
BE  
RUDE?



I CAN'T  
REACH  
HER BY  
PHONE.



I DON'T  
KNOW  
YOUR  
EMAIL  
AD-  
DRESS...



...OR  
YOUR  
PHONE  
NUM-  
BER.

I  
HAVE  
NO  
WAY  
TO  
CON-  
TACT  
YOU.

I  
WOULD  
BE  
GOING  
TO HER  
HOUSE  
TO  
YELL  
AT  
HER,  
AFTER  
ALL.

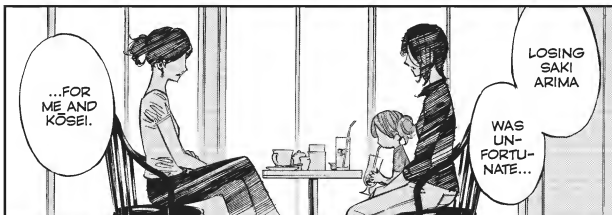


I  
THOUGHT  
I'D SEE  
YOU

IF I  
CAME  
TO THE  
MUSIC  
ROOM.







...FOR  
ME AND  
KŌSEI.

LOSING  
SAKI  
ARIMA

WAS  
UN-  
FORTU-  
NATE...



ARIMA-  
KUN'S  
PLAY-  
ING...

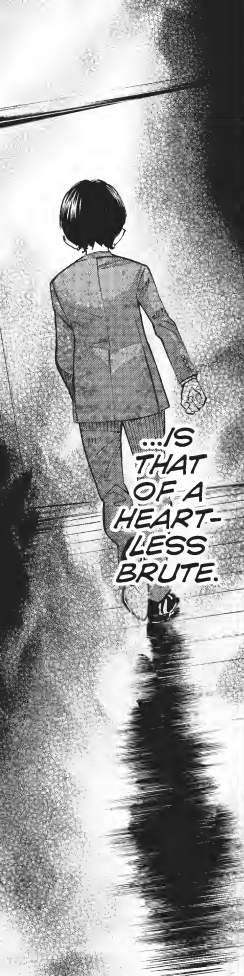


...HAS A  
SADNESS  
ABOUT IT.

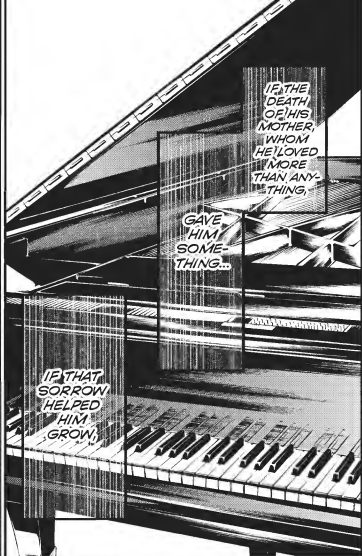


BUT  
FOR  
KŌSEI  
ARIMA  
THE  
MUSI-  
CIAN,

MAYBE  
IT WAS  
NECESSARY.



...IS  
THAT  
OF A  
HEART-  
LESS  
BRUTE.



IF THE  
DEATH  
OF HIS  
MOTHER,  
WHOM  
HE LOVED  
MORE  
THAN ANY-  
THING,

GAVE  
HIM  
SOME-  
THING...

IF THAT  
SORROW  
HELPED  
HIM  
GROW,



THEN  
HIS  
PATH...





HOW'D  
IT GO  
YESTER-  
DAY?





...HE  
MAY  
HAVE  
TO DO  
SO  
THROUGH  
LOSS.

SORRY I  
COULDN'T  
MAKE IT.

A CHAIN / END



I WAS  
HOPING  
I COULD  
GET YOU  
TO DROP  
OUT OF  
THE  
CONCERT.

I  
WANTED  
TO CALL  
YOU,

BUT IT  
KINDA  
WASN'T  
POS-  
SIBLE.

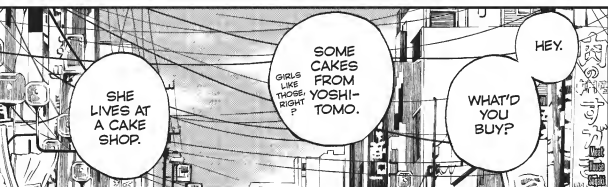


IF  
KŌSEI  
IS GOING  
TO MOVE  
FORWARD...

# Your Lie @ April

A collection of semi-annual cherry blossom and spring tea house readings



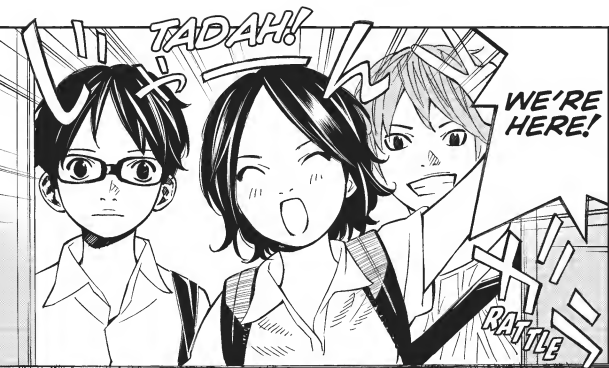




CHAPTER 27: SUPER-  
IMPOSED OUTLINES

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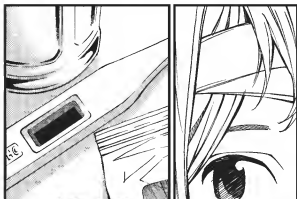








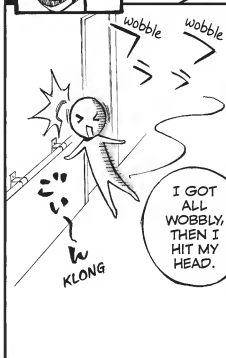
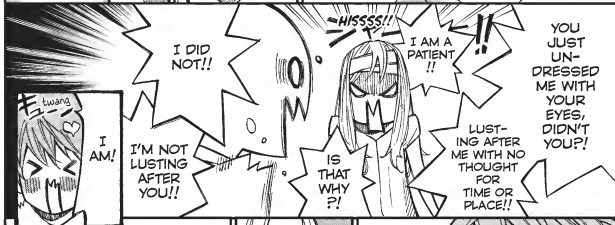
BUT  
SINCE  
I HURT  
MY  
HEAD,

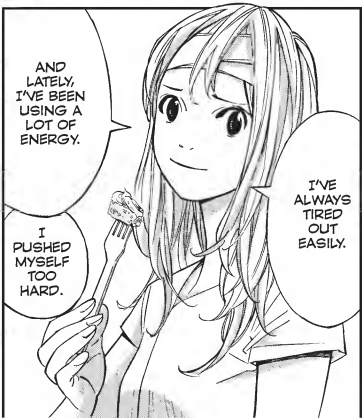
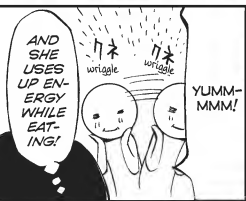
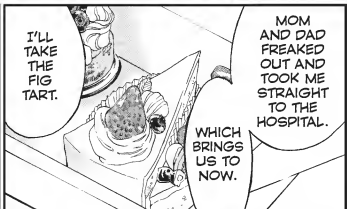


THIS TIME,  
WE'RE  
GONNA  
TAKE IT  
SLOW  
AND GIVE  
ME SOME  
TIME TO  
REST.

THERE  
WERE  
SOME  
TESTS WE  
FIGURED  
WE COULD  
SKIP LAST  
TIME.

LIKE  
A BRAIN  
SCAN.







...HAVE  
REHEARSED  
THAT  
ANSWER...

...BEFORE  
WE GOT  
HERE.

SHE  
COULDN'T...

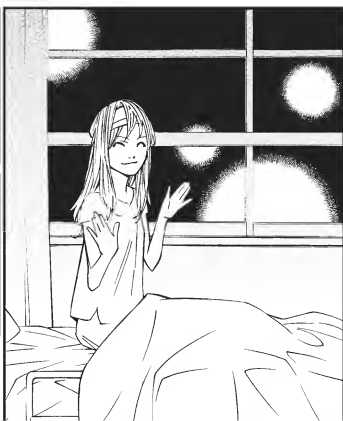
I'M  
IMAGIN-  
ING IT.

BYE-  
BYE!

SEE YOU  
LATER.

LET'S  
MEET  
AGAIN  
IN OUR  
DREAMS.

SHUT





SCHOOL LIBRARY  
CHECKOUT CARD

NO. 17493

CLASS

NAME

2-1

NATSUMI SAITŌ

2-3

KŌSEI ARIMA

CHE  
0

11/3

12/2

12/6

YES?

KAORI-  
CHAN.

THEN

MAY  
I?

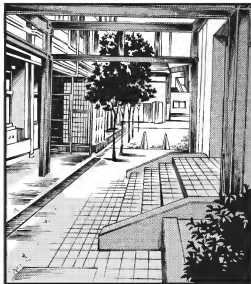
HAVE  
YOUR  
FRIENDS  
LEFT?

YES.

YES.

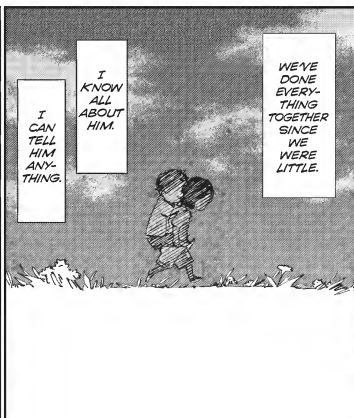
RATTLE  
X/TLE











TSU-  
BAKI!!

TSU-  
BAKI.

THAT'S  
SO  
S-S-  
STUPID!

WHY  
WOULD  
YOU  
BRING  
KŌSEI  
INTO  
THIS?

WHA—

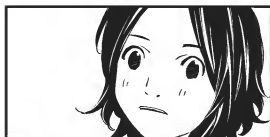
I  
KNOW  
ALL  
ABOUT  
HIM.

I  
CAN  
TELL  
HIM  
ANY-  
THING.

WE'VE  
DONE  
EVERY-  
THING  
TOGETHER  
SINCE  
WE  
WERE  
LITTLE.

I  
DON'T  
REALLY  
THINK  
OF  
HIM  
AS  
A BOY  
I'D  
WANT  
TO  
DATE.

KŌ-  
SEI...





AND  
YOU  
DON'T  
WANT  
TO  
RUIN  
IT.



BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
COMFORT-  
ABLE IN  
THE  
RELATION-  
SHIP,  
YOU HAVE  
NOW,



BUT  
YOU HAVE  
TO KEEP  
CASTING  
YOUR  
"LITTLE  
BROTHER"  
SPELL,

OR YOU  
GET  
SCARED.



I  
WORKED  
HARD  
ON THAT  
DASHIMAKI  
TAMAGO...

おわわ  
FLUSTER FLUSTER



I  
TOLD  
YOU,  
IT'S  
NOT  
LIKE  
THAT.

おわわ  
SULK



I  
APPROACHED  
THIS THE  
WRONG  
WAY.

NOW  
SHE'S  
GETTING  
DEFIANT.

GUESS  
I HIT THE  
NAIL TOO  
SQUARELY  
ON THE  
HEAD.



SO  
WHAT  
ARE  
YOU  
GOING  
TO  
DO?



BUT  
HE  
TOOK  
THAT  
STEP  
FOR-  
WARD.

ARIMA-  
KUN  
WAS  
SCARED.

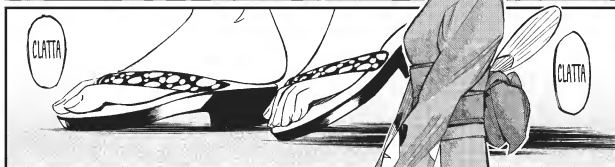


WHAT  
THE  
HECK!

THIS  
IS THE  
TROUBLE  
WITH  
CHILD-  
HOOD  
FRIENDS.









YOU'RE  
REALLY  
PRETTY.

IT  
LOOKS  
GOOD  
ON  
YOU.



OOH, A  
YUKATA.

YOU'RE  
SO  
TAN!



THEY  
DO SAY  
CLOTHES  
MAKE  
THE  
MAN.

SEEP  
LOOK,  
KASHI-  
WAGI.

THAT'S  
OKAY.  
YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE TO  
FLATTER  
ME.

AH  
HA  
HA.



I  
BET...

I'M  
JUST...



...AS A  
NAGGING  
OLDER  
SISTER.



WE HAVE  
TO GET  
SOME  
TAKOYAKI.

LET'S  
GO.

KŌSEI  
WOULD  
NEVER  
SAY  
THAT  
TO ME.

HE  
ONLY  
SEES  
ME...

KNOCK



KNOCK

COME  
IN.

KAORI MIYAZONO-SAN

YES?

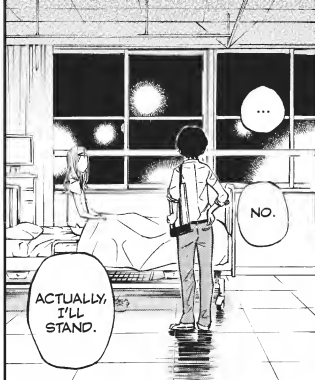
HELLO  
?

スス  
SLOW

CHAK  
X  
X

KA-  
X  
X  
X





NO.

ACTUALLY,  
I'LL  
STAND.

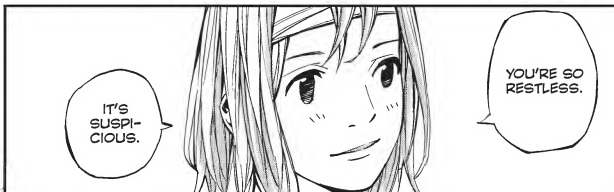


YOU  
COULD  
SIT.



YEAH.

UH.



IT'S  
SUSPI-  
CIOUS.

YOU'RE SO  
RESTLESS.



BUT  
YOU  
CAME  
ANY-  
WAY.



...

ARE  
YOU  
SICK?



I  
DON'T  
REALLY  
LIKE  
HOSPI-  
TALS.



YOU...



WATARI-KUN...

...WAS  
JUST  
HERE.



IT'S  
NO  
USE.

I  
HAVE  
TONS  
OF  
THINGS  
I WANT  
TO  
ASK  
HER,

BUT  
I  
CAN'T  
GET  
ANY  
OF  
THEM  
OUT.



YOU'LL  
BE  
OKAY,  
RIGHT  
?

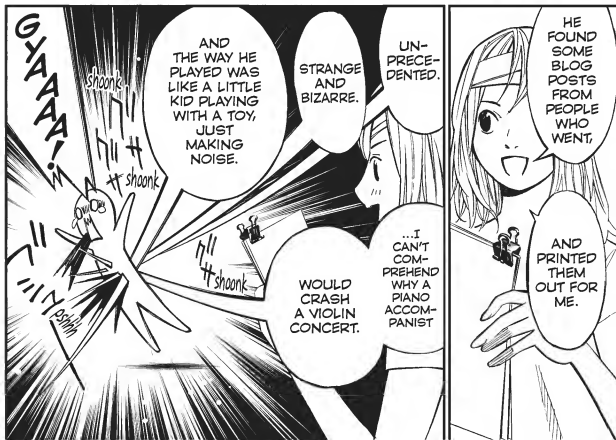
YOU  
WEREN'T  
LYING  
ABOUT  
THE  
TESTS,?

YOU'RE  
GOING  
TO BE  
FINE,  
RIGHT  
?

YOU'RE  
NOT  
GOING  
TO TELL  
ME THAT  
YOU'RE  
NOT  
COMING  
BACK TO  
SCHOOL,?

YOU'LL  
BE  
BACK  
TO CALL  
ME  
NAMES  
LIKE  
ALWAYS,  
RIGHT?

WE  
CAN  
TALK  
IN THE  
MUSIC  
ROOM,  
RIGHT?





HIS  
MUSIC  
TOOK ON  
A FAINT  
HINT OF  
COLOR.

THE BOY  
STARTED TO  
EXUDE AN  
AURA, LIKE  
THAT OF  
A RARE  
MAESTRO.

TOWARDS  
THE END  
OF THE  
PERFOR-  
MANCE,



HOW-  
EVER,

BLEED

BLEED

BLEED



AND A  
TOUCH  
OF  
SORROW  
IN OUR  
HEARTS.

A  
TOUCH  
OF  
LONELI-  
NESS,

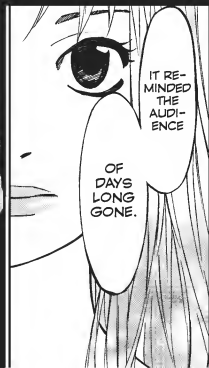
...A  
TOUCH  
OF  
ANXIETY,

AND  
LEFT  
THE  
AUDI-  
ENCE  
WITH...

THE  
MELODY  
TRANS-  
FORMED  
INTO A  
SPRING  
BREEZE,



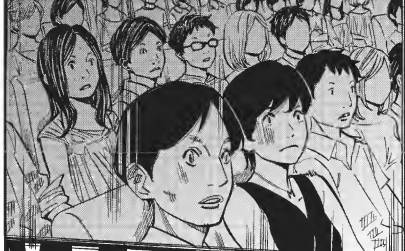
HE IS  
A REAL  
ARTIST.



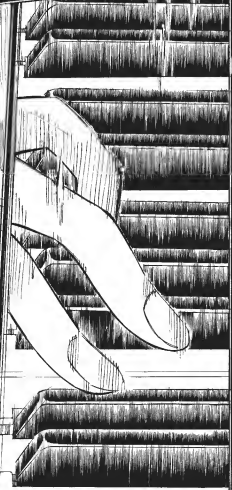
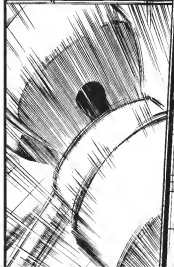
IT RE-  
MINDED  
THE AUDI-  
ENCE

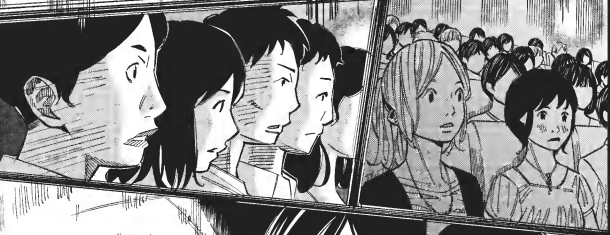
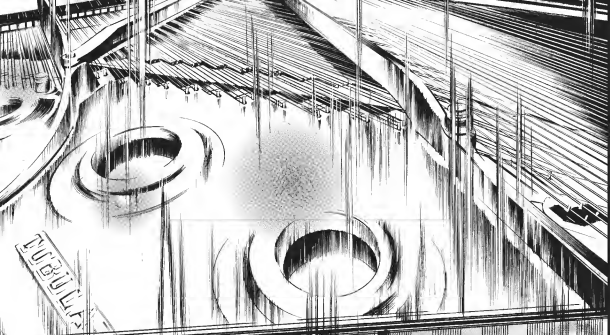
OF  
DAYS  
LONG  
GONE.





# VIAIHO MUS COMPETITION





GO.

OCHIAI-SENSEI.

YOU'RE  
TEACHING AN  
INTERESTING  
GIRL,

GO!!

BEAUTY  
DREAM  
FLOWERS





WILL  
YOU THANK  
ARIMA-KUN  
FOR ME?



ANOTHER...

...BRILLIANT  
ARTIST HAS  
BEEN BORN.



ARI-  
MA.

JUST  
YOU  
WAIT.



YOU'RE  
NUMBER  
ONE!

IGAWA-  
CHAAAAN!



EMI IS  
SAVOR-  
ING THE  
JOY OF  
BEING  
A MUSI-  
CIAN...

... WITH  
EVERY  
FIBER OF  
HER  
BEING.



YOUNG  
TALENTS  
...

...CLASH  
TOGETHER

AND  
POLISH  
EACH  
OTHER.

UNTIL  
THEY  
SHINE.



THAT'S RIGHT.

SHE HAS AN AIR ABOUT HER.

THE PIANO IS A PROJECTION.



WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT...

...CONVERGES ON ITS DESTINATION.

IT'S SOUND...

WITHOUT A SINGLE DISTORTION,

I WILL CATCH UP TO YOU.

BE-CAUSE I SWEAR...



YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT.

ACTUALLY NEVER-MIND.

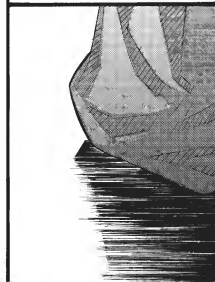
NO.



GO ON AHEAD.



FURTHER AND FURTHER.



KEEP GOING.

DON'T LOOK BACK.



...IS THE  
OTHER  
BOY.



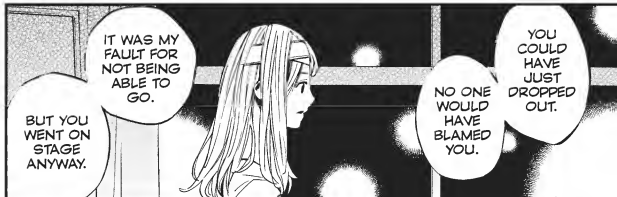
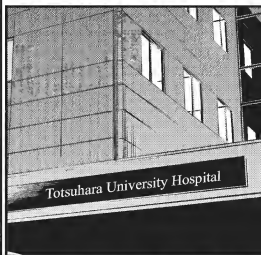
A  
COM-  
PETI-  
TION  
IS A  
FILTER.

ONLY A  
HANDFUL  
OF COM-  
PETITORS  
CAN GO ON  
TO PLAY  
PROFES-  
SIONALLY.

THE  
PIANO  
GLOWS  
LIST-  
LESSLY.

IT WAS A  
MISTAKE  
TO PIT  
ARIMA  
AGAINST  
TAKESHI.





SHE  
WAS  
JUST  
GRAND-  
STAND-  
ING.



AT  
FIRST,

IT WAS  
BECAUSE  
SOMEONE  
INSULTED  
YOU.





...TURNED  
INTO  
MUSIC...

...AND  
DANCED  
UP  
INTO  
THE  
SKY.



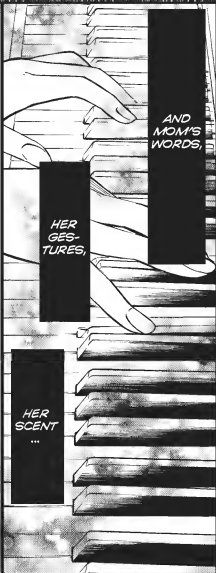
BUT  
THEN,

WHILE  
I WAS  
PLAY-  
ING,

THE  
MUSIC  
VAN-  
ISHED,



THE  
MEMO-  
RIES  
I HAVE  
WITH  
MY  
MOM...



AND  
MOM'S  
WORDS,

HER  
GES-  
TURES,

HER  
SCENT



*OH... I KNEW IT.*

SHE  
CHOSE  
IT FOR  
ME.



THAT  
PIECE.

## LOVE'S SORROW.



...RE-  
MINDS  
ME OF  
MY MOTH-  
ER.



THIS  
PIECE...

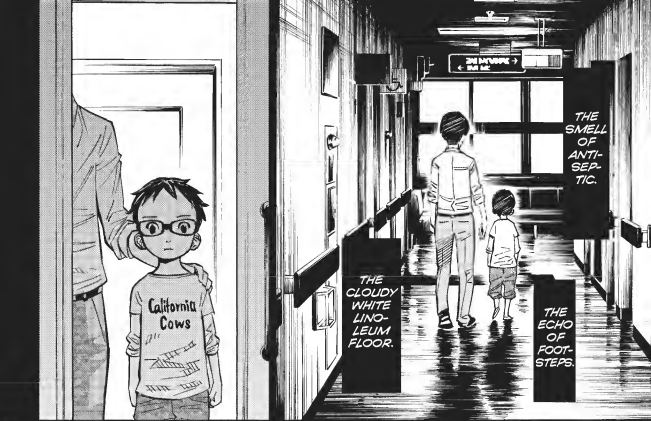


THE  
SMELL  
OF HER  
FABRIC  
SOFT-  
ENER,

THE  
SOUND  
OF THE  
PIANO  
AS I  
DRIFT  
OFF TO  
SLEEP...

THE  
UNAS-  
SUM-  
ING  
LUL-  
LABY.





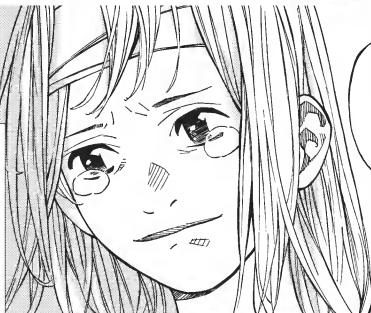


YOUR  
PERFOR-  
MANCE.

YOU'LL  
BE  
FINE,  
RIGHT  
?



I WISH  
I COULD  
HAVE  
HEARD  
IT.



YOU'RE  
GOING  
TO BE  
OKAY,  
RIGHT  
?

I  
WANTED  
TO PLAY  
WITH YOU  
AGAIN.

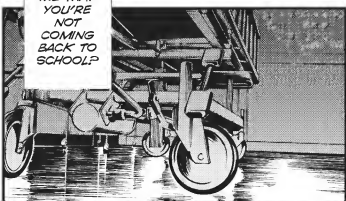


YOU  
WEREN'T  
LYING  
ABOUT  
THE  
TESTS?



YOU'RE  
NOT  
GOING  
TO TELL  
ME THAT  
YOU'RE  
NOT  
COMING  
BACK TO  
SCHOOL?

I'LL  
SEE  
YOU  
AGAIN,  
RIGHT  
?



YOU  
WEREN'T  
LYING  
ABOUT  
THE  
TESTS?



...CALLED  
ME BY MY  
NAME.



YOU...



YOU  
WON'T  
JUST...

...DISAPPEAR  
LIKE MY  
MOM DID,  
WILL YOU?

# Your Lie @ April

A collection of some governmental cherry-picked and twisted statistics and facts.





## Chapter 28: Footprints



# Your Lie @ April

A collection of semi-annual cherry blossom and spring tea house readings



**DU-DUN**

START-  
ING  
RIGHT  
NOW,

WE WILL  
BEGIN THE  
SUMIYA  
LITTLE  
LEAGUE  
BASEBALL  
AND SPORTS  
HEAVY-  
HITTER  
TRAIN-  
ING!!

I  
WANNA  
PLAY  
GAMES!

I  
WANNA  
GO  
SWIM-  
MING!

Boo Boo

AWW  
!!

OOH  
?!

BRAIN  
BUSTER!

YOU'RE  
ONLY  
BAT-  
TING A  
HUN-  
DRED!!

YOU'LL  
NEVER  
MAKE IT  
WITH WEAK  
LEGS AND  
A WEAK  
BACK!!  
NOT AS A  
BASEBALL  
PLAYER,

OR  
AS A  
SOCCER  
PLAYER  
!!

THE  
FUNDA-  
MENTAL  
PART  
OF AN  
ATHLETE  
ARE HER  
LEGS AND  
BACK!

TEN  
SETS  
OF TEN  
LAPS  
ACROSS  
THE  
SAND!



**STOP!**

わあああああ  
waaaaah あ





I  
WANT  
TO.

BUT  
I HAVE  
PIANO  
LESSONS.



KŌSEI.

LET'S  
GO  
TO  
ŌJI  
PARK.

GOODBYE!

AWW.



IT'S A  
MASTER-  
PIECE!

WELL  
DONE,  
IF I DO  
SAY SO  
MYSELF.



I  
KNOW.

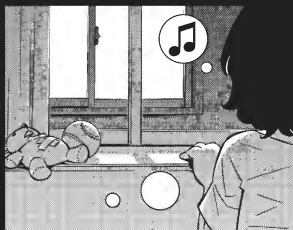
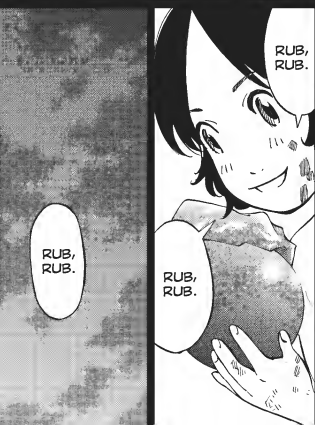
I'LL  
MAKE  
ONE FOR  
KŌSEI,  
TOO.

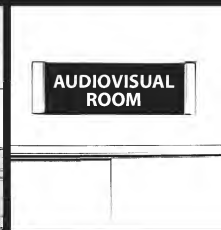


AND I WAS  
GOING TO  
SHOW HIM  
MY MUD  
BALL, TOO!

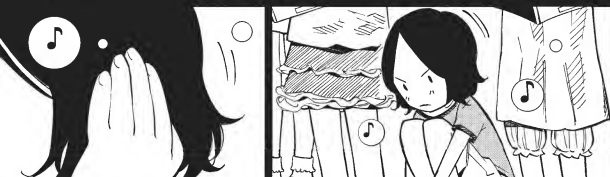
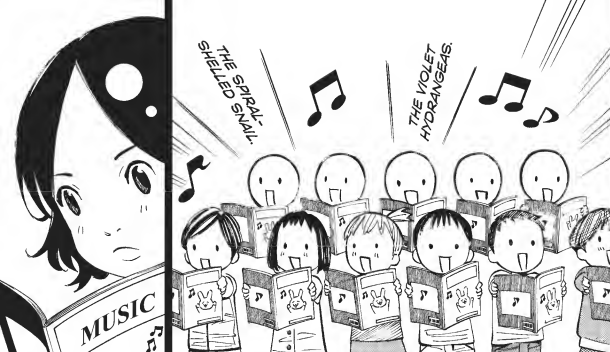
IT  
SPAR-  
KLES IN  
ALL THE  
COLORS  
OF THE  
RAIN-  
BOW.

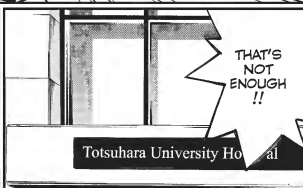
IT'S  
SO  
SHINY.

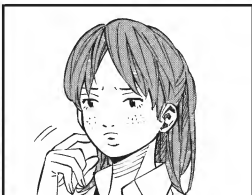






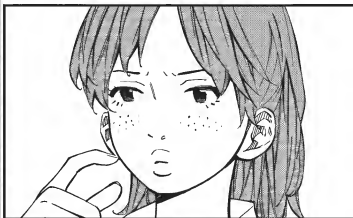








SHE'S  
JUST  
SO...



FORGET  
ABOUT IT.



THAT'S  
ACTUALLY  
REFRESH-  
ING.

777  
HEH, HEH  
HEH...

I'M NOT  
INTER-  
ESTED IN  
A WOMAN  
WHO WON'T  
FALL FOR  
ME.



I  
WOULDN'T  
BE TALK-  
ING TO  
YOU IF  
I COULD  
FORGET  
ABOUT  
IT.

THIS IS  
TSUBAKI  
HERE.

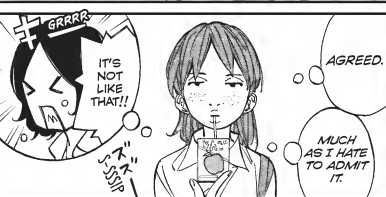


SHE  
STARTS  
SULKING  
AND GETS  
ALL  
DEFIANT.

TSUBAKI  
IS A BABY.

OBVIOUSLY  
IT'S GONNA  
GET COMPLICATED.

WHEN  
SOME-  
ONE TELLS  
HER SHE'S  
WRONG,

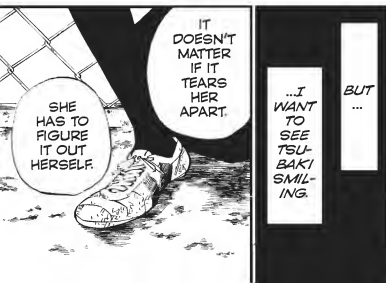


GRRRR

IT'S  
NOT  
LIKE  
THAT!!

AGREED.

MUCH  
AS I HATE  
TO ADMIT  
IT.



SHE  
HAS TO  
FIGURE  
IT OUT  
HERSELF.

IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER  
IF IT  
TEARS  
HER  
APART.

...I  
WANT  
TO  
SEE  
TSU-  
BAKI  
SMIL-  
ING.

BUT  
...

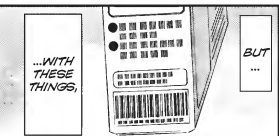
ESPE-  
CIALLY  
IF IT HAS  
SOME-  
THING...

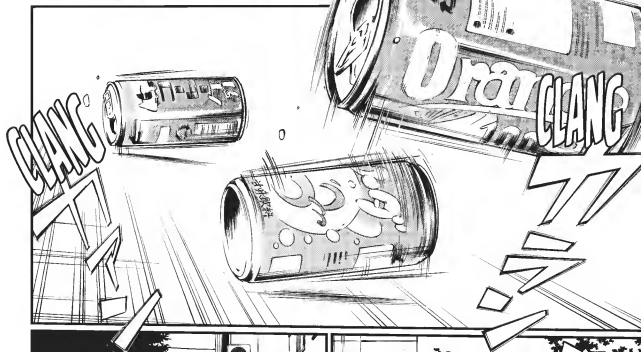
...TO DO  
WITH  
KŌSEI.



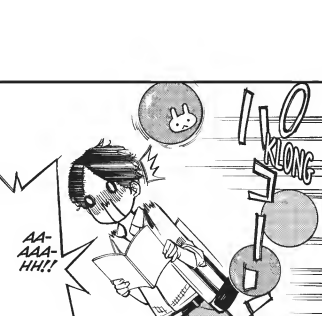
**SHE  
HAS TO  
REALIZE  
THE GUY  
STAND-  
ING  
NEXT  
TO  
HER...**

**...IS  
NOT  
HER  
"LITTLE  
BROTHER."**













CAREER  
PLAN?



ME?  
A PRO...

A  
PROFES-  
SIONAL  
PIANIST  
?

I  
STARTED  
THINKING  
I'D LIKE  
TO BE A  
WEIRDO  
PIANIST.



OR YOU  
WON'T  
BE  
READY  
FOR EN-  
TRANCE  
EXAMS  
IN TIME.

YOU CAN  
TAKE TIME  
TO THINK  
ABOUT IT,  
BUT BE  
QUICK  
ABOUT  
IT,

I'M  
SORRY.

WHAT?  
STILL  
UNDE-  
CIDED  
?



MY  
FUTURE.

CA-  
REER  
PLAN.

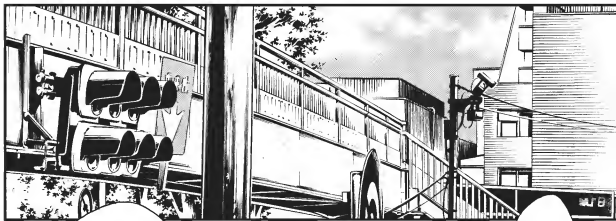
YES,  
SIR.

TALK TO  
THE MUSIC  
TEACHER,  
ANDO-  
SENSEI.

YOU  
SHOULD  
CONSIDER  
GOING TO A  
SCHOOL WITH  
A MUSIC  
PROGRAM.



WHAT  
DO I  
WANT  
TO  
BE?



HE  
DROPPED  
HIS ICE  
CREAM  
BAR  
ON THE  
BEACH,

AND  
THEN  
GUESS  
WHAT?





HE SAYS,  
"I  
WANTED  
A MILK  
ONE."



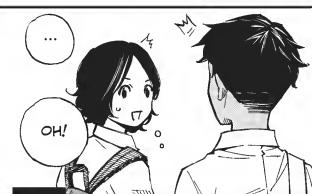
I GOT  
SO SICK  
OF HIS  
WAIL-  
ING,

I GAVE  
HIM  
MY ICE  
CREAM.

AND  
THEN!

AND  
STARTED  
CRYING  
LIKE A  
BABY.

HA  
HA  
HA.



OH!



THERE  
I GO  
AGAIN.

I'M  
SORRY.

UM.

歩行者優先  
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING





NOW  
I'VE  
DONE  
IT!!



IT'S  
FUN TO  
HEAR  
YOUR  
STORIES  
ABOUT  
ARIMA-  
KUN.

THAT'S  
OKAY.



I AM  
NOT  
KŌSEI'S  
BABY-  
SITTER!

GRRRR

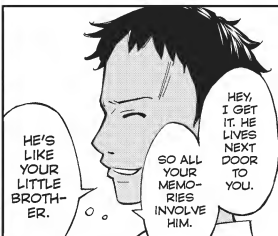
NO,  
HE'S  
NOT  
!!

BUT  
THAT'S  
ALL I  
EVER  
COME UP  
WITH.

SO I  
JUST  
...

UM,  
I...

I TRY  
TO THINK  
OF THINGS  
TO TALK  
TO YOU  
ABOUT.



HE'S  
LIKE  
YOUR  
LITTLE  
BROTHER.

SO ALL  
YOUR  
MEMO-  
RIES  
INVOLVE  
HIM.

HEY,  
I GET  
IT. HE  
LIVES  
NEXT  
DOOR  
TO YOU.



A  
BOY I  
CAN'T  
LEAVE  
ALONE,

AND  
LOST  
HIS  
MOM  
WHEN  
HE  
WAS  
YOUNG.

WHO'S  
LITTLER  
THAN  
ME,

THE  
BOY  
WHO  
LIVES  
NEXT  
DOOR,



THAT'S...  
ALL  
HE  
IS.

I'M  
SURE  
THAT'S  
ALL IT  
IS.



BECAUSE  
I WANT  
HIM TO  
FEEL  
BETTER.



COME  
ON,  
KASHI-  
WAGI!

BEEP  
BEEP  
BEEP

BEEP  
BEEP  
BEEP

WHAT  
THE  
HECK!

UGH!



HEART-  
LESS  
FIEND.

COLD-  
BLOODED  
WENCH.

YOU  
COULD AT  
LEAST GIVE  
ME SOME  
GOOD  
ADVICE,

BUT  
YOU HAVE  
TO SAY ALL  
THAT STUFF  
THAT DOESN'T  
MAKE SENSE  
INSTEAD.



YOU'RE  
SUPPOSED  
TO USE  
YOUR  
HEART  
FOR  
THESE  
PROB-  
LEMS!

DON'T BE  
STUPID! WHY  
ARE YOU TRYING  
TO USE YOUR  
HEAD? YOU  
KNOW YOU'RE  
JUST A MUSCLE  
BRAIN.

THE  
OTHER DAY  
YOU TOLD ME  
YOU DON'T  
HATE SAITÔ-  
SEMPAI.

THEY'RE  
THE  
SAME.

I DON'T  
GET IT.

LIKE?

DON'T  
HATE?

BUT  
"LIKE"  
AND  
"DON'T  
HATE"...

...ARE  
TENS OF  
THOUSANDS  
OF LIGHT  
YEARS  
APART!



IF YOU DON'T  
SWALLOW  
YOUR PRIDE  
AND ADMIT  
TO YOURSELF  
HOW YOU  
FEEL, PEOPLE  
ARE GOING TO  
GET HURT.

BEING IN  
LOVE WITH  
BEING IN  
LOVE ISN'T A  
THING THESE  
DAYS.



EVERY-  
ONE  
KNOWS  
THE  
TRUTH.

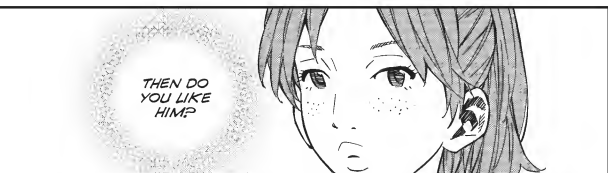


I ALWAYS  
LOOKED  
UP TO  
YOU.

I WOULD  
NEVER...

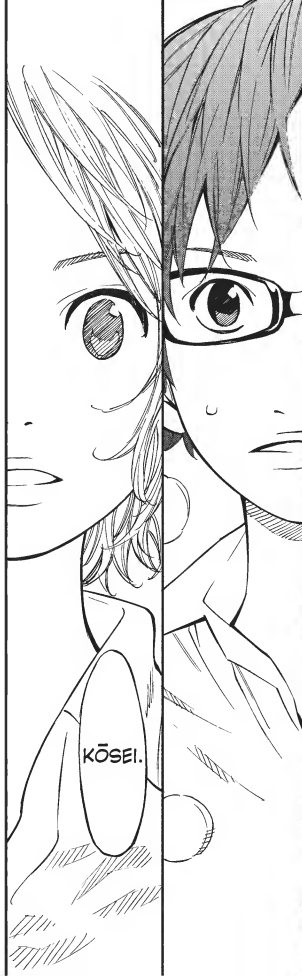


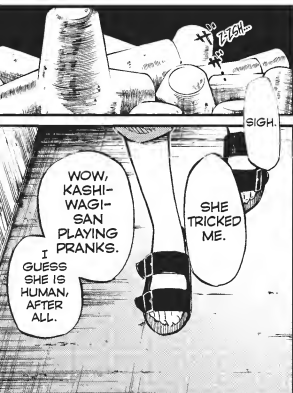
DO  
YOU  
HATE  
ME?



WHO...DO I LIKE?









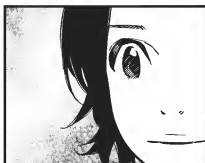
IT'S NOT FUNNY.

AH  
HA  
HA.

I BE-  
LIEVED  
HER AND  
RAN ALL  
AROUND  
TOWN.

BUT  
I WAS  
COM-  
PLETELY  
FOOLED!!

IT WOULD  
SOUND A LOT  
MORE SERI-  
OUS COMING  
FROM KASHI-  
WAGI.



SIGH..

I  
REALLY  
WORKED  
UP A  
SWEAT.



THANK  
YOU!

ice cream

I  
COULD  
USE  
AN ICE  
CREAM  
BAR.



SNAP





LOOK,  
TSU-  
BAKI.

THE  
MOON  
IS  
FULL.



SHRUNCH

SHRUNCH



MILK  
AGAIN  
?

YOUR  
TASTE  
NEVER  
CHANG-  
ES.



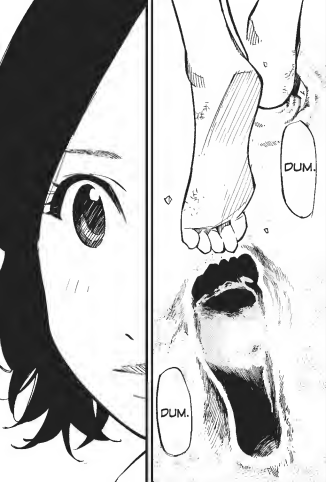
THERE  
ARE  
ONLY  
THREE  
DIFFER-  
ENT  
FLA-  
VORS.

I LIKE  
THIS  
ONE.

BUT THE  
CHOCO-  
LATE ONE'S  
GOOD,  
TOO.







HUM-  
MING...

...BEE-  
THOVEN'S  
MOON-  
LIGHT  
SONATA.

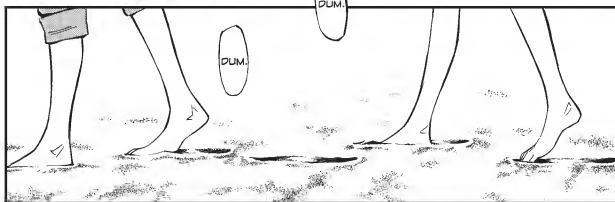


BIG-  
GER  
THAN  
MINE.

A  
BOY'S  
FOOT-  
PRINTS.

BIG  
FOOT-  
PRINTS.

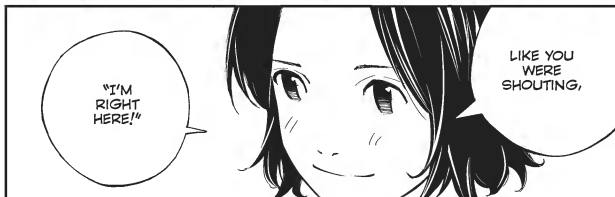
THE  
SAND  
FEELS  
SO  
GOOD  
UNDER  
MY  
BARE  
FEET.





**THAT'S WEIRD.**







YOU  
WILL  
ALWAYS  
BE AN  
ARTIST.

NO  
MATTER  
WHAT  
YOU  
DO.

EVEN A  
MUSICAL  
AMATEUR  
LIKE ME  
CAN TELL.



YOU'RE  
THE KIND  
OF  
PIANIST...



TSU-  
BAKI.

HMP?



...WHO  
CAN  
EXPRESS  
THOSE  
THINGS.



HIRO-  
KO-  
SAN...

...SAID  
SHE COULD  
COME VISIT  
ABOUT  
TWICE A  
WEEK.



HUH  
?

WHAT  
?



HUH  
?

HUH  
?



...I'M  
GOING  
TO LEAVE  
HOME.



I'M...

...GOING  
TO GO  
TO A HIGH  
SCHOOL  
WITH A  
MUSIC  
PRO-  
GRAM.



SO...



I DON'T  
THINK I'D  
BE ABLE TO  
COM-  
MUTE  
FROM MY  
HOUSE.

THEY'RE  
ALL FAR  
AWAY.



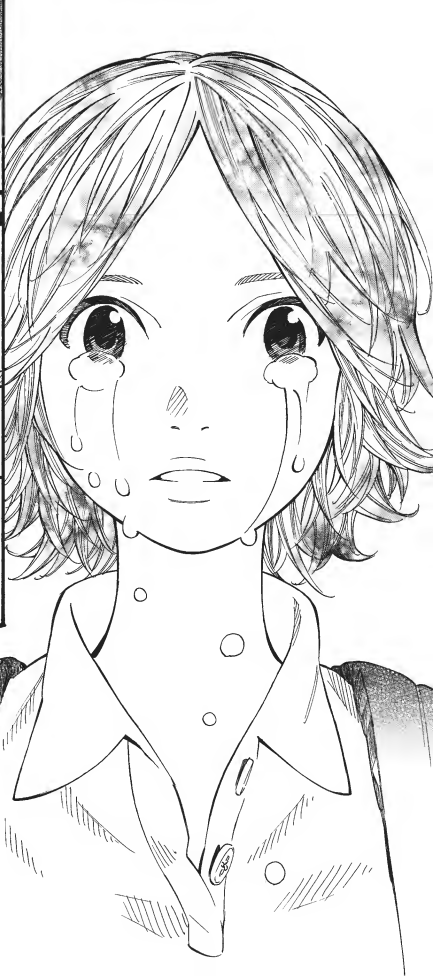
OF  
COURSE, I'M  
NOT REALLY  
SURE IF I  
CAN GET IN.

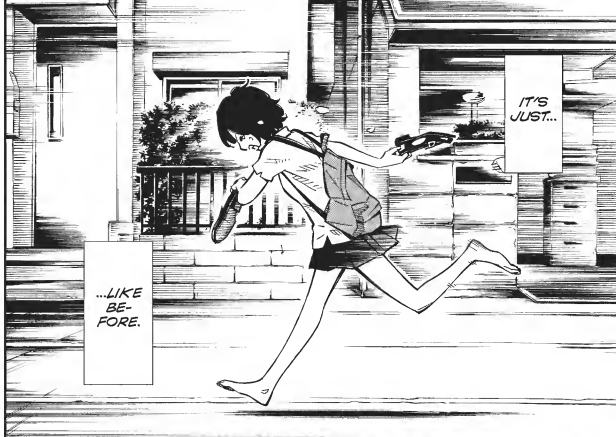
AFTER ALL  
THAT TIME  
NOT  
PLAYING.



ARE  
THERE ANY  
OF THOSE  
SCHOOLS...

...AROUND  
HERE?





...LIKE  
BE-  
FORE.

IT'S  
JUST...



...IS  
GOING  
TO TAKE  
KŌSEI  
AWAY  
FROM  
ME.

MUSIC...



STUPID  
KŌSEI.

STU-  
PID.

HOW  
COULD  
YOU KEEP  
SOME-  
THING  
THAT  
IMPOR-  
TANT  
FROM  
ME?



I'M  
GOING  
TO  
LEAVE  
HOME.



...AM  
I  
CRYING  
SO  
HARD  
?

THEN  
WHY...

HE  
CAN  
GO  
WHER-  
EVER  
HE  
WANTS!

STUPID  
KŌSEI!

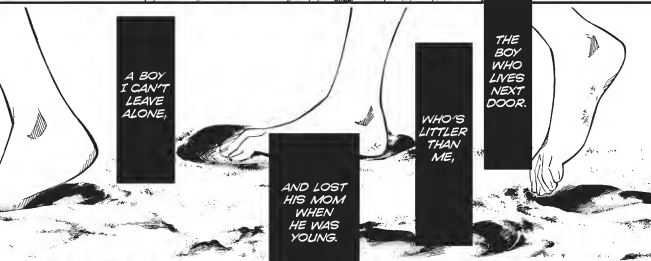


YOU'RE  
AN  
ONLY  
CHILD.





YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE A  
LITTLE  
BROTHER.



A BOY  
I CAN'T  
LEAVE  
ALONE,

THE  
BOY  
WHO  
LIVES  
NEXT  
DOOR.

WHO'S  
LITTler  
THAN  
ME,

AND LOST  
HIS MOM  
WHEN  
HE WAS  
YOUNG.



TSU-  
BAKI-  
CHAN,  
YOU...



GO LET  
YOUR BOY-  
FRIEND HELP  
YOU FEEL  
BETTER.



A  
BOY...

...I  
AL-  
WAYS...

BE-  
CAUSE  
I WANT  
HIM TO  
FEEL  
BET-  
TER.



SOME-  
DAY, IT'S  
GOING TO  
BE TOO  
LATE TO  
FIX IT.



...BE  
BY MY  
SIDE.

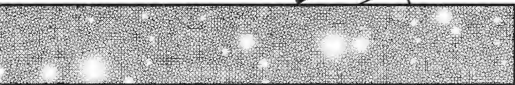
THINKING  
HE'D  
ALWAYS...

...  
TOOK  
FOR  
GRANT-  
ED,

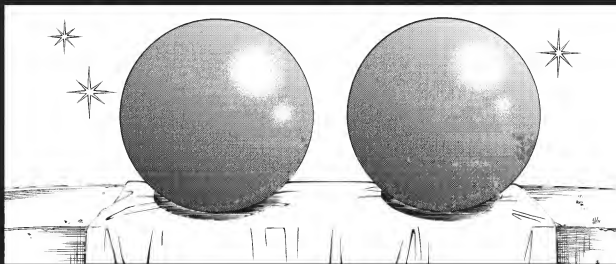
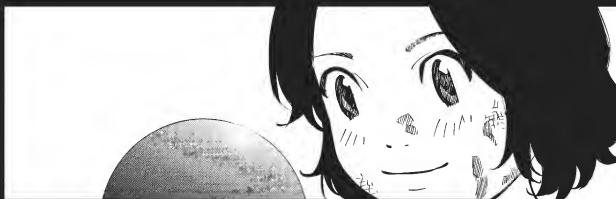
*A BOY I WANT TO KEEP BY MY SIDE.*



TSUBAKI.







*Special Thanks:*

---

AKINORI ŌSAWA  
MASANORI SUGANO  
RIEKO IKEDA  
KAORI YAMAZAKI

---

## Translation Notes



### Riding off on the current, page 11

To be more accurate, Kōsei says that the music does a *kaiyū*, which can refer to taking a circular tour, but is more often used to talk about wandering the seas, or more specifically, fish migration. In other words, everything about Kōsei turns into music and begins to migrate through his dark ocean.



### Let me... Let us... page 31

Here, the whole audience is begging to hear more of this music. To demonstrate that every individual in the audience shares this sentiment, the author used two different first-person pronouns, *boku* and *watashi*. Both of them mean “me,” but the former is used more typically by men, while women are more likely to use the latter. The point is, everyone in the audience, male and female, is touched by Kōsei’s performance.



The word here translated as “artist” is *hyōgensha*, which literally means “one who expresses.” Unfortunately, “expressionism” refers to specific styles of art, so translating the term literally would give it an entirely different meaning. In this case, the word is used to refer to someone whose main occupation is to express things, feelings, etc. in words, pictures, or music.

### *Dashimaki tamago*, page 114

Literally meaning “egg wrapped with *dashi*,” a *dashimaki tamago* is a type of Japanese omelet. As the name implies, it is made of egg mixed with *dashi*, which is a kind of soup stock made from seaweed and fish.





*Yukata,*  
page 117

A *yukata* is a light summer kimono. Traditional Japanese clothing isn't as commonly worn in Japan these days, but they still bring it out for special occasions like summer festivals.



## What's that thing about a boy at the gate?,

page 174

The thing about a boy at the gate is the proverb, “a boy at a temple gate recites sutras untaught.” In other words, spend enough time listening to something, and eventually you’ll pick up on it whether you want to or not. An equivalent saying in English (though not common enough to help the readers recognize it any better) is “a saint’s maid quotes Latin.”



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# My Little Monster

## OPPOSITES ATTRACT...MAYBE?

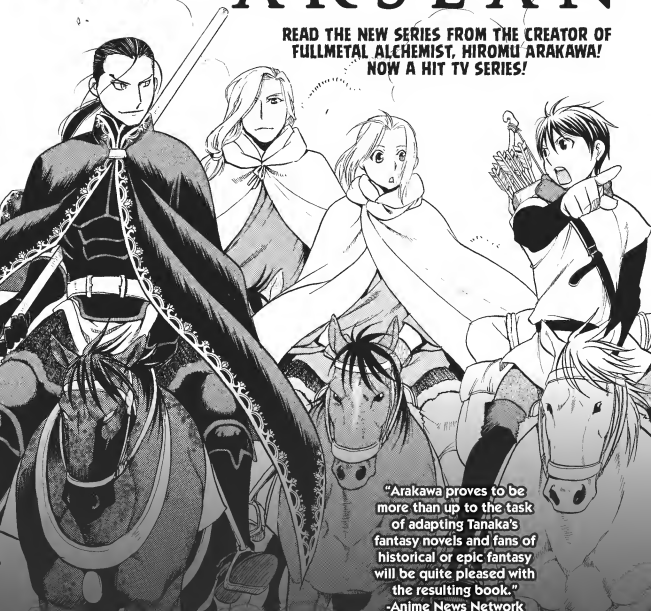
Haru Yoshida is feared as an unstable and violent "monster."  
Mizutani Shizuku is a grade-obsessed student with no friends.  
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firmly believes he's in love with Mizutani and she firmly believes  
he's insane.



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# **TOMARE!**

# **STOP**

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---

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---

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